Dear Parents – how can it be week 3 already? The students are really looking forward to camp and there is a definite air of excitement! They have made a little ‘countdown to camp’ box on the whiteboard which is nice to see.

Pam Allen:

Spelling

The Sound Waves Program really challenged the students in Term 1. During Term 2, Mrs Inglis will conduct a pre-test every Monday to determine the words that will be the most difficult. Children are to enter the words spelt incorrectly in the pre-test into their “My Spelling Journal”. Every night during the week, they have been asked to practise these words and put a tick or cross in the columns to indicate if the words are known and that this practice has occurred.

Each week the children will be given a sound strip for the list words. This will generally be completed in class, but students are asked to check their answers which can be done online at home. If they can do this at home it is another activity which will consolidate their spelling knowledge of the list words. Students have been told that they are welcome to come in at 8.30 to use the computers at school if they have trouble accessing a computer at home. I will also be sending home one paper activity related to the current spelling list each week. E.g. Pentagon spelling.

Reading

The class is now arranged into three groups for guided reading. We continue to use informational texts to address some highlighted skills in our Literacy Plan. Every day I will try to read to the class chapters from short stories which are historical texts. They have enjoyed making comparisons to “then and now”. On Fridays a whole class activity will take place.

Children should continue reading books of their personal choice and entering the titles in their personal journals.

Writing

In Term 1 we commenced a text innovation activity. The draft of which is to be completed by Friday 9th May. We will then access computers and prepare this in a book form to share with the children from Room 15. Following camp, there will be several writing activities based on experiences from the week.

Jackie Inglis:

In Term 2 I will continue to work on the same areas of the curriculum. In Maths our measurement activities progress to using units of measurement in problem solving activities. The students find this testing as, of course, the answers aren’t straightforward and there may be several solutions. These activities really extend their thinking and many of the students enjoy the challenge.

I have taken over ‘Health’ from Mr Schupp and we will be looking at areas concerning interpersonal skills. This involves the children continuing to investigate and consider their self-esteem and self-concept, relationships and resilience.

Our S&E (Society and Environment) focus remains with ‘History’. Our studies will move from the period of Federation into life in the 20th century, Australia’s system of law and
government and experiences of Australian democracy and citizenship, including the status and rights of Aboriginal people and/or Torres Strait Islanders. An extended homework project will involve the students researching a group or individual who has migrated to Australia, their reasons for doing so and their experiences on arrival.

In writing, I will continue to work with Mrs Allen for English language outcomes. The students have produced some wonderful historical narratives and we will carry on looking at the narrative structure but with a different emphasis, for example a mystery/detective narrative.

**Brian Schupp:**

In Science this term we will be looking at It’s Electrifying. We will be looking at energy storage as in dry cells, batteries etc., and how electric circuits function.

In Mathematics, we will continue to develop an understanding of whole numbers, fractions, decimals and percentages. We will be consolidating operations involving whole numbers, addition and subtraction of fractions, decimals and money.

Maths Online will continue to be used to consolidate related in class work.